

**MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING**

December 11, 2002
MAG Office, Saguaro Room
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Mayor Wendy Feldman-Kerr, Queen Creek, Chair	Supervisor Mary Rose Wilcox for Supervisor
Mayor Joan Shafer, Surprise, Vice Chair	Don Stapley, Maricopa County
Mayor Douglas Coleman, Apache Junction	Mayor Keno Hawker, Mesa
Mayor Ron Drake, Avondale	Mayor Edward Lowry, Paradise Valley
* Mayor Dusty Hull, Buckeye	Mayor John Keegan, Peoria
* Mayor Edward Morgan, Carefree	* Mayor Skip Rimsza, Phoenix
* Vice Mayor Ralph Mozilo, Cave Creek	* President Ivan Makil, Salt River
Mayor Boyd Dunn, Chandler	Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
Mayor Robert Robles, El Mirage	Mayor Mary Manross, Scottsdale
Mayor Jon Beydler, Fountain Hills	Mayor Neil Giuliano, Tempe
* Mayor Chuck Turner, Gila Bend	* Mayor Adolfo Gamez, Tolleson
* Governor Donald Antone, Gila River Indian	Mayor Lon McDermott, Wickenburg
Community	* Mayor Daphne Green, Youngtown
Mayor Steven Berman, Gilbert	Rusty Gant, ADOT
* Mayor Elaine Scruggs, Glendale	Joe Lane, ADOT
Mayor Bill Arnold, Goodyear	F. Rockne Arnett, Citizens Transportation
* Mayor Margarita Cota, Guadalupe	Oversight Committee
Mayor J. Woodfin Thomas, Litchfield Park	

* Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.
Attended by videoconference or by telephone conference call.

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting of the Regional Council was called to order by Chairman Wendy Feldman-Kerr at 5:05 p.m.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Chairman Feldman-Kerr welcomed Supervisor Mary Rose Wilcox as proxy for Supervisor Don Stapley, Maricopa County.

Chairman Feldman-Kerr stated that the RPTA has agreed to provide transit tickets for those who used transit to come to the meeting. She stated that garage parking validation was available from staff.

Chairman Feldman-Kerr stated that due to the room's acoustics, audience conversations carry over to the Council table, making it difficult to hear presentations. She requested that the audience keep conversations to a minimum during the meeting.

Chairman Feldman-Kerr stated that MAG staff, who are seated at each end of the entryways to the Regional Council table on both sides of the room, are available to assist members of the public in turning in their public comment cards.

Chairman Feldman-Kerr stated that for agenda item #10, Update on the Valley Metro/RPTA Regional Transit System Study, the November 2002 edition of their newsletter was at each place. For agenda item #11, Conceptual Scope of Work for the Regional Transportation Plan Phase II, the summary transmittal previously faxed to members was at each place. For Agenda item #12, Appointments to the MAG Transportation Policy Committee, the professional profile of Mr. Jed S. Billings that was previously faxed to members was at each place.

3. Call to the Audience

Chairman Feldman-Kerr stated that according to MAG's public comment process, members of the audience who wish to speak are requested to fill out the cards which are available on the tables adjacent to the doorways inside the meeting room. She noted that there is a three minute time limit. Public comment is provided at the beginning of the meeting for non-agenda items.

Chairman Feldman-Kerr recognized public comment from DD Barker, who stated her support for the Fiesta Bowl. She stated that she had attended Ohio State University. Ms. Barker commented on the fans attending the game and bringing in revenue to the area. She encouraged all to treat the fans well. Ms. Barker stated that she is able to go all around the valley by transit, but not everyone uses the transit system because of lack of education and motivation. She stated that more money needs to be put into education and customer service so more people will utilize transit. Ms. Barker stated that she understood that the public comment process was established by a process in 1996, and she was grateful for the opportunity to be able to address the Council. She stated that it was unclear, however, whether public comment would be taken on agenda items not slated for action during the non-agenda public comment portion of the agenda. Ms. Barker stated that she had submitted a public comment request that had not yet been answered. She encouraged multi-modalism. Chairman Feldman-Kerr thanked Ms. Barker for her comments.

Chairman Feldman-Kerr recognized public comment from Bob McKnight, who stated that there are items overlooked in the transportation system, such as the I-10 express terminal, which cost \$10 million. This works out to \$2,000 per day. Mr. McKnight commented that the design at 48th Street and McDowell/202 interchange causes problems because the interchange dead ends. It is better to stay with the original plan at the exchange and dump the traffic into a neighborhood transit system. He commented on traffic calming designs that do not work and can cause safety problems. Mr. McKnight stated that more attention needs to be paid to the public because they pay for facilities. He mentioned that University Park is a nice park with a playground, but it is closed on Sunday and has restricted operating hours. Mr. McKnight stated that Phoenix allows this because it is a poor area. He commented that the wealthier areas with their skateboarding parks do not have this problem. Mr. McKnight stated that he objects to the number of weighted votes that Phoenix has and he is not happy with where the money is going. Chairman Feldman-Kerr thanked Mr. McKnight for his comments.

Chairman Feldman-Kerr recognized public comment from Joe Ryan, who stated that he was from Sun City West. He commented on the superiority of the Philadelphia transit project to the proposed light rail system. Mr. Ryan stated that the Philadelphia system is being expanded to towns to connect and develop them, and to bring people into the city. He stated that he suggested a rapid transit system from Apache Junction to Wickenburg years ago. He acknowledged this would not make as much money as a route from Ahwatukee to Scottsdale to the airport or Goodyear or Buckeye to the airport. Mr. Ryan suggested a venture capital project to make a profit. He suggested that all get together and use other technologies. Mr. Ryan stated that he submitted an 18-page document at the Management Committee meeting. We need to plan for profit and have rapid transit to downtown and the airport. Chairman Feldman-Kerr thanked Mr. Ryan for his comments.

Chairman Feldman-Kerr recognized public comment from Blue Crowley, who stated that he wanted to comment on specific agenda items. Chairman Feldman-Kerr advised that this was the opportunity for non-agenda item comment. Mr. Crowley stated that he understood that this was also an opportunity to comment on those agenda items not slated for action. Clarification was given on the speaking rules. Mr. Crowley requested that staff show where they are being proactive in adhering to federal guidelines 450-93A-J. He stated that the guidelines indicate that the public shall have full and complete access in the process before final action. Mr. Crowley stated that the County's plan with the sales tax has not been considered. Mr. Crowley commented that the 39 square miles that were recently annexed by Phoenix will cause sprawl. Stop sprawl by utilizing transit. Mr. Crowley stated that at the Executive Committee meeting, Mayor Rimsza stated that MAG's focus should remain on transportation. He stated that Mayor Hawker would say that transportation planning and land use planning should be done together, which is the better way to go. Chairman Feldman-Kerr thanked Mr. Crowley for his comments.

4. Interim Executive Director's Report

Dennis Smith stated that for two years in a row, no audit findings have been received on the financial audit or for the single audit. Mr. Smith noted that MAG has been notified that they have been awarded the Government Finance Officers Award (GOFA) for the fourth year in a row. Mr. Smith noted that to our knowledge, MAG is one of two Councils of Governments that received the GOFA award this year.

Mr. Smith stated that a meeting was held with ADOT, RPTA, the Pima Association of Governments and the Rural Transportation Advocacy Council to discuss how we could work together on TEA III coordination. ADOT has prepared a list of potential discretionary projects that they will be sharing with the Congressional Delegation. He added that a meeting will be held next week at RPTA to go over the list. The goal is to have a list of projects that all in the state support.

Mr. Smith stated that the BLM, through a consultant effort, is conducting a resource management plan with a 20-year horizon and will be updated every five years. He stated that BLM is asking for MAG to work with them in soliciting support from the MAG member agencies. Mr. Smith announced that an event is being planned for December 17th, at the BLM Training Center at 9828 North 31st Avenue in Phoenix from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Mayor Giuliano, Chair of the TPC, provided an update on recent activities of the Committee. He stated that consulting firms are in place and working on the project: (1) HDR Engineering – Phase II Plan – Performance-based planning. (2) Cantelme Kaasa – Plan Advisor – public policy expertise. (3) SR Beard – Communications – Business outreach. (4) Gunn Communications – Public involvement (5)

Behavior Research – Survey research. Mayor Giuliano stated that at the December 18th TPC meeting, the survey results from Behavior Research will be reviewed. He added that serious discussion on statewide and regional policy will take place at the meeting, and all are welcome to attend. Mayor Giuliano stated that key messages will also be discussed, and HDR Engineering will make a presentation on the draft transportation database.

Mr. Smith announced that the COG Directors Association Website has been developed by MAG, with the technical assistance of Gordon Tyus, MAG Graphics Specialist. The Website was developed to disseminate information on regional planning on a statewide basis. Chairman Feldman-Kerr thanked Mr. Smith for his report and asked if there were questions.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda

Chairman Feldman-Kerr stated that public comment is provided for consent items. Each speaker is provided with a total of three minutes to comment on the consent agenda. After hearing public comments, any member of the committee can request that an item be removed from the consent agenda and considered individually. Chairman Feldman-Kerr stated that agenda items #6, #7, #8, and #9 were on the consent agenda.

Chairman Feldman-Kerr recognized public comment from Mr. Ryan, who commented on agenda item #7, Proposed 2003 Revisions to MAG Standard Specifications and Details for Public Works Construction. He stated that MAG is in a good position to adopt transportation standards for the purpose of getting people to their destinations. He stated that he sees proposals for different modes of transit—high speed rail and trolleys—and costs increase if uniform standards are not in place. Mr. Ryan stated that if uniform standards for the region are implemented, people will hear about it. Mr. Ryan commented on agenda item #8, Request for Qualifications for the Transportation Policy Committee Information Program; Authorization to Negotiate and Execute a Contract, and Amendment of the FY 2003 MAG Unified Planning Work Program. He expressed concern with exhibits on the internet and handed out copies for the members to pass around. For Exhibit B, regional service planning was to have been completed by last month. For Exhibit C, the list of products does not mention routes, vehicles or services. He stated that Exhibit D's goals are ridiculous, especially ADA. Exhibit E proves that consultants know little about planning a regional transit system. The Regional Transit System Study does not provide a basis for creating a transit system. Mr. Ryan requested that the Regional Council to turn down the recommendation for SR Beard. Chairman Feldman-Kerr thanked Mr. Ryan for his comments.

Chairman Feldman-Kerr recognized public comment from DD Barker, who commented on agenda item #8, Request for Qualifications for the Transportation Policy Committee Information Program; Authorization to Negotiate and Execute a Contract, and Amendment of the FY 2003 MAG Unified Planning Work Program. She stated that the consultant will deal with stakeholders, and that typically does not mean citizens. Regarding the Town Hall, she stated that attendees will be selected people attending. She stated that she realized that there needed to be a way to funnel information to decision makers, but she was concerned that there would be a predetermined agenda. Ms. Barker requested that the public participation element not be left out, because this is federal money. Ms. Barker stated that the public needs to be involved at the beginning. She noted that the consultant is also serving as the lead on the light rail project. Ms. Barker stated that there are options other than light rail, such as using existing transit with satellite stations. Fixed transit pollutes more and costs more. For agenda item #9, Status Update on the June 30, 2002 Single Audit and Management Letter Comments, MAG's

Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and OMB Circular A-133 Reports (i.e., "Single Audit") for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2002, Ms. Barker stated that the audit is not really an independent audit because Deloitte and Touche performs the audit for CTOC and City of Phoenix.

Chairman Feldman-Kerr recognized public comment from Mr. Crowley, who stated that the Arizona flag has a place on his dashboard. Arizona is a very important place to him. He stated that he had a problem with the same companies being selected over and over again. Mr. Crowley commented that SR Beard caused us to have some problems getting funds for Surprise because the money got tied up. Each community needs to communicate. In 1989, the community said to connect all to the transit routes. Chairman Feldman-Kerr thanked Mr. Crowley for his comments.

Mr. Smith clarified facts about the CTOC audit. He stated that the CTOC budget is an audit of RARF funds, and there are no RARF funds in the MAG budget. Deloitte and Touche do not do a financial audit for CTOC, but does a financial audit for ADOT.

Chairman Feldman-Kerr asked if there were requests to remove an item from the consent agenda. Hearing none, she asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Vice Chair Joan Shafer moved, Mayor Woody Thomas seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

6. Approval of October 30, 2002 Meeting Minutes

The Regional Council, by consent, approved the October 30, 2002 meeting minutes.

7. Proposed 2003 Revisions to MAG Standard Specifications and Details for Public Works Construction

The MAG Standard Specifications and Details for Public Works Construction represent the best professional thinking of representatives of several Public Works Departments and are reviewed and refined by members of the construction industry. They were written to fulfill the need for uniform rules governing public works construction performed for Maricopa County and the various cities and public agencies in the county. They further fulfill the need for adequate standards by the smaller communities and agencies who could not afford to promulgate such standards for themselves. The MAG Standard Specifications and Details Committee has completed its 2002 review of proposed revisions to the MAG Publication. Similar to last year, a summary of these recommendations was sent, on October 8, 2002, to members of the MAG Management Committee and to MAG Public Works Directors for review for a period of one month. No objections to any of the proposed revisions have been suggested within the month review time frame and the proposed revisions are now regarded as approved and formal changes to the printed and electronic copies have begun. This item was reviewed by the Management Committee at their November 20, 2002 meeting. It is anticipated that the annual update packet will be available for purchase in early January 2003.

8. Request for Qualifications for the Transportation Policy Committee Information Program; Authorization to Negotiate and Execute a Contract, and Amendment of the FY 2003 MAG Unified Planning Work Program

The Regional Council, by consent, ratified the Executive Committee approval to authorize the MAG Interim Executive Director to negotiate a contract with SR Beard and Associates LLC to implement a TPC Information Program for an amount not to exceed \$60,000, and amend the FY 2003 MAG Unified Work Program to reprogram unexpended MAG federal funds from prior year UPWPs for this purpose.

During the Transportation Policy Committee Retreat September 21, 2002, the Committee directed MAG staff to issue a Request for Qualifications from interested public outreach firms to assist the Committee in the development of a Public Information Program. The purpose of the program is to facilitate two-way communication between the TPC and transportation stakeholders to receive input from and provide information to the public, the broader business community, the media and other stakeholders regarding the development of the Regional Transportation Plan. On October 4, 2002, a Request for Qualifications was issued for the TPC Information Program. Statements of Qualifications were due to MAG by October 18, 2002. MAG received Statements of Qualifications from three respondents for the Public Information Program. The respondents included BJ Communications, Riester-Robb, and S.R. Beard and Associates, LLC. All three consultants were invited for follow-up interviews to present their qualifications before a review team composed of representatives from MAG member agencies. The multi-agency review team interviewed agencies responding to this request on October 22, 2002 and presented initial recommendations to the TPC on October 23, 2002. At that time, the TPC determined that further review was needed before a final selection could be made. A selection panel made up of TPC members met on October 31, 2002 and reached consensus that S.R. Beard & Associates, LLC be selected as the consultant for this program, with BJ Communications as the second choice in the event that a contract could not be negotiated with S.R. Beard & Associates. During its meeting November 13, 2002, the Transportation Policy Committee recommended approval of the selection of S.R. Beard and Associates, LLC, and granted authorization to the MAG Interim Executive Director to negotiate and execute a contract with the company to conduct the Transportation Policy Committee Information Program.

9. Status Update on the June 30, 2002 Single Audit and Management Letter Comments, MAG's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and OMB Circular A-133 Reports (i.e., "Single Audit") for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2002

The Regional Council, by consent, accepted the MAG Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and Single Audit Report for the year ended June 30, 2002. The public accounting firm of Deloitte & Touche LLP has completed the audit of MAG's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and Single Audit for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2002. An unqualified audit opinion was issued on August 27, 2002 on the General Purpose Financial Statements (GPFS) and on the combining and individual financial statements in relation to the GPFS. The independent auditors' report on compliance with the requirements applicable to major federal award programs, expressed an unqualified opinion on the Single Audit. The Single Audit report indicated there were no reportable conditions in MAG's internal control over financial reporting considered to be material weaknesses, no instances of noncompliance considered to be material and no questioned costs. The Single Audit report had no new or repeat findings. No new or repeat Management Letter comments were issued for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2002. The CAFR financial statements and related footnotes were prepared in accordance with the Government Finance Officers Association's (GFOA) standards for the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting awards program. Management intends to submit the June 30, 2002 CAFR to the GFOA awards program for review. If awarded the certificate for the June 30, 2002 CAFR, this would be the agency's fifth consecutive award. Additionally, MAG is one of only an approximate 10 Councils of Governments (COGs) currently holding this award out of approximately 500 Councils of Governments nationwide.

Chairman Feldman-Kerr announced that this was the last Regional Council meeting for Mayor Bill Arnold. She read the Resolution of Appreciation for his dedicated service to the Maricopa Association of Governments and presented Mayor Arnold with his framed certificate. Mayor Arnold thanked the

Council for the Resolution. He stated that he will still be working on issues because he will start his term with the Arizona Legislature in January 2003. Mayor Arnold stated that he will carry pleasant memories of the many MAG events in which he participated.

Chairman Feldman-Kerr introduced a new Regional Council member, Mayor Robert Robles from El Mirage. She presented Mayor Robles with his membership certificate. Mayor Robles conveyed greetings from the citizens of El Mirage. He stated that he looked forward to working with everyone.

14. Employee Recognition

This agenda item was taken out of order.

Chairman Feldman-Kerr presented MAG staff with awards for their years of service. For five years service: Dawn Coomer, Multi-Modal Planning Manager; Heidi Pahl, Videoconferencing Planner; Audrey Skidmore, Automation Support Program Manager; Gordon Tyus, Graphics Specialist. For 20 years: Lindy Bauer, Environmental Manager. Chairman Feldman-Kerr thanked staff for their dedicated work.

10. Update on the Valley Metro/RPTA Regional Transit System Study

Stuart Boggs, Valley Metro/RPTA, gave a presentation on the Regional Transit System Study. Mr. Boggs stated that the Study is one of several studies currently under way that will provide input into the Regional Transportation Plan. The Study will provide a fiscally constrained multi-modal regional transit plan and will guide operational and capital investments in transit over the next 20 years. Mr. Boggs stated that an Agency Advisors Group (AAG) has been meeting monthly to provide input into the project. He noted that the AAG includes representatives from Valley Metro/RPTA, MAG, ADOT, Maricopa County, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, and the cities of Phoenix, Tempe, Mesa, Scottsdale, Chandler, Glendale, and Avondale. Mr. Boggs stated that a two-day workshop was held on October 30-31, 2002, to discuss the approach to the plan and the elements. He noted that the Study will coordinate with ongoing studies, such as the High Capacity Transit Plan, the Area Transportation Studies, the Bottleneck Study, the HOV/HOT Lane Study, and ultimately, the Regional Transportation Plan. Mr. Boggs explained that efforts include quantifying transit need in the region and based on that need, examining transit investments that address those needs in all areas of the region. He reviewed the scope and schedule, components, and methodology for the Study. Mr. Boggs directed the Council's attention to a series of maps, and explained that they described the areas of future transit need, work trip destination density, and trip patterns, as well as proposed and existing regional connections. He spoke about the methodology to develop paratransit services and rural transit services. Chairman Feldman-Kerr thanked Mr. Boggs for his report and asked the Committee if there were questions.

Mayor Hawker asked for clarification that Tempe and Phoenix were used as the baseline for transit needs. Mr. Boggs replied that the study looks at the current service levels for Tempe and Phoenix and applies that standard to the rest of the region. Mayor Hawker asked if ridership per mile and cost recovery were assumed in the cost assumptions. Mr. Boggs replied that was correct—those assumptions would be addressed in the projections.

Mayor Thomas pointed out that the map contained in the newsletter showed a high level of projected transit need at a location in the far West Valley. He asked the reason for such a high projection in a relatively low population area. Mr. Boggs explained how the far West Valley does not have an extensive street network. What happens is the model forces transit need into a small area because there are not enough roads to distribute the need. Mr. Boggs stated that this anomaly will be addressed in the final recommendations. Mayor Thomas asked if Anthem was considered a rural or urban area. Mr. Boggs replied that Anthem is on the edge of the urbanized area. It is a low density population, an exurban area. He added that when built out, Anthem's population will be similar to Flagstaff's. Mr. Boggs stated that the fact that there are few ways to get out of Anthem will drive need. He mentioned that the developer has committed to developing a transit station. Mayor Thomas commented on previous infrastructure built by developers that did nothing to address capacity.

Mr. Arnett asked about the accuracy of the population model used. Mr. Boggs replied that the draft socioeconomic numbers issued by MAG for the development of the Regional Transportation Plan process were used. Mr. Arnett asked about adoption of the numbers. Mr. Smith clarified that MAG is waiting for the County control numbers from the Department of Economic Security (DES) to be issued. MAG is using an interim set until DES provides those control numbers. Mr. Smith added that an analysis of the numbers was done by MAG member agencies based on their general plans. Mr. Arnett asked how those areas not fully developed, but planned, will respond if the projection totals are found not to be correct? Mr. Boggs stated that is a concern and could cause the transit model to be re-run. He noted that this is an evolving process, and described efforts to ensure the numbers are as accurate as possible. Mr. Arnett expressed interest in seeing the projection numbers. Mr. Smith stated that the projections could be provided.

11. Conceptual Scope of Work for the Regional Transportation Plan Phase II

Eric Anderson gave an update on five tasks currently underway in Phase II of the development of the Regional Transportation Plan. A telephone survey of 1,000 households is currently being conducted and preliminary results will be presented at the December 18th TPC meeting. Mr. Anderson stated that the project database is being compiled by the consultant. He noted that the database, which is fairly extensive and contains more than 300 projects, will be augmented by various studies. Mr. Anderson stated that the prioritization and evaluation framework is being developed. He added that revenue projections are in the finalization stage by ADOT and the consultant. They are using a 20-year projection that is estimated to bring in approximately \$8.3 billion. Mr. Anderson stated that the public involvement firms of Gunn Communications, SR Beard and Cantelme, Kaasa and Associates are now on board and will work on tasks in a coordinated fashion. Chairman Feldman-Kerr thanked Mr. Anderson for his update and asked if there were questions.

12. Appointments to the MAG Transportation Policy Committee

Chairman Feldman-Kerr stated that at the June 26, 2002 Regional Council meeting, the members of the Transportation Policy Committee were appointed. These appointments were made in accordance with the overall structure of the Committee that was approved at the April 2002 Regional Council meeting. Since making the appointments in July, one member has left his construction business and is no longer on the Committee. Another member, Mayor Bill Arnold from Goodyear, was successful in his election for the State House of Representatives and his term of office in Goodyear will end on January 13, 2003. She noted that the name of Jed S. Billings, a representative of the construction industry, had been submitted. The name of Vice Mayor Seth Kanter, Goodyear, had been submitted for Mayor Arnold's

seat. In addition to these vacancies, membership is also being extended to the new ranking Maricopa members of the House and Senate Transportation Committees.

Chairman Feldman-Kerr moved to appoint Vice Mayor Seth Kanter, Goodyear, and Jed S. Billings to the MAG Transportation Policy Committee. Mayor Arnold seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

13. Air Quality Update

Lindy Bauer informed the Council that the EPA had received a filing extension, and their brief is now due on December 19, 2002. Chairman Feldman-Kerr thanked Ms. Bauer for her update and asked if there were questions.

15. Regional Development Scope of Work and Preferred Funding Option

Jack Tomasik addressed the Council on the five work scope items: Economic Development, Regionally Significant Development Projects, Annual Report, Pilot Cities, and Alternative Staffing Options. Mr. Tomasik noted that discussion on this item has taken place at Management Committee, Executive Committee and Regional Council meetings since October. Mr. Tomasik stated that in discussing the scope of work, several member agencies have advocated a more incremental approach, focusing on information sharing, informal review and the development of an annual report. He added that because of current economic times, this suggested approach was further modified, to assist member agencies with economic information that is at the forefront of development and infrastructure decisions. Mr. Tomasik stated that the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) gave a presentation on their annual report at the December 9th Executive Committee meeting. He added that it is envisioned that the proposed MAG annual report would require minimum staff effort. Mr. Tomasik stated that the regionally significant development project component and the annual report would have an 18-month evaluation period, at which time the Regional Council would evaluate these components to see if any should be implemented. He stated that the Management Committee and Executive Committee recommended approval of Option Four, which totals \$171,000, a lower total than the \$269,000 now held in contingency in the MAG budget. Chairman Feldman-Kerr thanked Mr. Tomasik for his report and asked if there were any questions.

Mayor Thomas asked about the review of regionally significant projects. Mr. Tomasik replied that finalization of the process would be worked through the Planners Stakeholders Group, Management Committee and Regional Council. Mayor Thomas asked about utilizing the GIS position for additional purposes, such as setting standards because maps are on different scales. Mr. Smith explained that MAG GIS staff is being overused now, although the GIS position will work in a number of areas.

Mayor Hawker moved to approve the Regional Development Scope of Work and funding Option Four (Hire a GIS Analyst as a full-time staff position, and to complete the remainder of the work scope with consultants or associates - estimated cost of \$171,000), and after an 18-month evaluation period, this would be brought back to the Regional Council for evaluation and a vote on implementation. Vice Chair Shafer seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

16. Election to Fill the Vacancy on the MAG Regional Council Executive Committee

Chairman Feldman-Kerr stated that as a result of the recent municipal elections, a vacancy occurred on the MAG Executive Committee. According to the MAG By-Laws, in case of a vacancy in the Executive Committee, the Regional Council at its next meeting may elect a successor to the Committee for the unexpired term of the member. The process requires that the Nominating Committee provide a balanced slate of candidates. On October 30, 2002, the MAG Nominating Committee met and recommended that Mayor John Keegan, Peoria, be elected to the Executive Committee for the unexpired term of Mayor Roy Delgado from El Mirage.

Vice Chair Shafer moved to elect Mayor John Keegan, Peoria, to fill the vacancy on the Regional Council Executive Committee. Mayor Lowry seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

17. State 911 Fund

Chief Harry Beck, Phoenix Fire Department, gave an update on the State 911 fund. He stated that last year, the Legislature approved a measure that would provide funds for the implementation of Phase I and Phase II. He explained that currently, the MAG 911 System does not receive a call back number or location from cellular phone calls. Phase I and Phase II will provide this ability. Chief Beck explained that more than half of the 911 calls to the MAG System are cellular. He added that the federal government is requiring cell phone companies to provide this technology on future cell phones.

Chief Beck stated that in the Special Session of the Legislature, \$5 million was transferred from the State 911 fund to the General Fund. The money in the State 911 fund is needed to continue the implementation of Phase I and Phase II. Chief Beck stated that alternatives to lessen the impact of the fund transfer include repealing cost recovery language, raising the tax to recover funding, or extending the term of the legislation that is currently 2009. Chief Beck stated that strategies for the January Legislative Session include providing a briefing of the fiscal impact on the fund to key legislators and beginning a procurement process on large projects, such as the mapping system and wireless routing.

Mr. Smith stated that a request for qualifications process is underway to implement Phase I and Phase II in this region, after which the consultant selection would be brought back to the Regional Council. He commented that it is important to commit the funds remaining in the 911 fund. Chief Beck added that there is the possibility of another Special Session and there is the possibility that more funds could be transferred.

18. Town Hall Update

Chairman Feldman-Kerr stated that with the upcoming development of the Regional Transportation Plan, it has been suggested that for the first town hall, transportation issues be discussed by the broader community. She added that staff will make a presentation to the Transportation Policy Committee on December 18th for the purpose of receiving the Committee's input. Chairman Feldman-Kerr stated that the next step is to appoint the committee to guide the effort. She requested that members of the Regional Council interested in serving on the steering committee are requested to contact either herself or Dennis Smith.

19. Update on Executive Director Recruitment

Chairman Feldman-Kerr reminded members of the meet and greet reception with the Executive Director candidates on December 19th at the Phoenix Hyatt. She stated that an invitation had been sent out and encouraged attendance.

20. Comments from the Council

An opportunity will be provided for Regional Council members to present a brief summary of current events. The Regional Council is not allowed to propose, discuss, deliberate or take action at the meeting on any matter in the summary, unless the specific matter is properly noticed for legal action. No comments were provided.

There being no further business, Mayor Thomas moved to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Keegan seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary